Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

[00010] Fig. 1 is a schematic representation of the embodiment for generating siRNA in mammalian cells using vertebrate Type I Pol III promoters. Specifically, Fig. 1 is a schematic representation of **a** strategy for generating siRNA in mammalian cells using vertebrate Type I Pol III promoters (5S rRNA gene promoter and others). "A Box", "C Box", "D Box" and "IE" are Pol III promoter elements, "+1" is an initiation site of transcription, "Tn" is a termination site of the Pol III promoter transcript, and the arrow indicates the orientation of transcription. **It is to be understood that "A Box", "C Box", "D Box" and "IE" as used in Fig. 1 and also in Figs. 3, 4, and 6 as well as referenced elsewhere hereafter are to be accorded their commonly understood meanings as set forth in, for example, "Effect of Mutations in the Upstream Promoter on the Transcription of Human 5S rRNA Genes" (Hallenberg *et al.*, Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 91565 [2001], 169-173), "Transcription by RNA Polymerases I and III" (Paule *et al.*, Nucleic Acids Research, 2000, VOl. 28, No. 6, 1283-1298), and "RNA Polymerase III – Genes, Factors and Transcriptional Specificity" (Eur. J. Biochem., 212, 1 – 11 [1993]), each of these papers being incorporated herein by reference.** The siRNA template consists of sense, spacer, antisense and terminator sequences, and generates a hairpin dsRNA when expressed. "Sense" is a 17-23 nucleotide (nt) sense sequence that is identical to that of the target gene and is a template of one strand of the stem in the hairpin dsRNA. "Spacer" is a 4-15 nt sequence and is a template of the loop of the strand of the stem in the hairpin dsRNA. "Terminator" is the transcriptional termination signal of five thymidines (5 Ts).

[00024] Cloning of the recombinant 5S rDNA Box D is carried out through PCR using forward primer (AACggatccaaacgctgcctccgcga) **(Seq. 1)** and reverse primer (TAGACGCTGCAGGAGGCGCCTGGCT) **(Seq. 2)**, which can then be subcloned into BamHI and PstI sites of pBS2SK. The Box A/C can be synthesized as top strand (AGAAGACGAagctaagcagggtcgggcctggttagtacttggatgggagaccgcctgggaataccggg tgctgtaggcttttg) **(Seq. 3)** and bottom strand

[00025]
(TCGACAAAAAGCCTACAGCACCCGGTATTCCCAGGCGGTTCTCCCATCCAA GTACTAACCAGGCCCGACCCTGCTTAGCTTCGTCTTCT) **(Seq. 4)**, which are then annealed and subloned into EcoRFV and SalI sites downstream of the cloned Box D. The annealed DNA fragment is engineered with a BbsI site.

[00027] 5' GC(N19)TTTCGG(61N)TTTTT 3' **(Seq. 5)**

[00028] 3' ACGTCG(61N)AAAGCC(N19)AAAATCGA 5' **(Seq. 6)**